(4) Systemic restructuring providing for, *inter alia*, legal changes and institution building for supporting the restructuring process.

(c) Government is awaiting the views of the RBI on the recommendations contained in the Verma Working Group Report

(d) Does not arise.

Leasing out of National Airports

*138. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are shortly initiating a scheme for leasing out some key national airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for going in for the new policy of lease-out in reversal of the policy of outright corporatisation decided earlier?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) The advantage of long term leasing *vis-a-vis* corporatisation are as follows:—

(i) the ownership of airports shall remain with the Airports Authority of India (AAI); (ii) the restructuring will be achieved in a shorter time-span as the intermediate step of corporatisation will be avoided; and (iii) lease rentals from this exercise will regularly accrue to enable the development of remaining airports.

Declaring Panikoili-Rourkela road as a National Highway

*139. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have declared the State Road in Orissa from Panikoili to Rourkela as a new National Highway;

(b) if so, the steps taken to upgrade the above State road as National Highway;

(c) the fund provision made for the purpose so far; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) Highway from Panikoili to Rajamunda has been declared as NH No. 215. Rajamunda is already connected to Rourkela by NH No. 23.

(b) Public Works Department, State Govt. of Orissa has been directed to take over the highway and start improvement.

(c) and (d) Funds are not provided National Highway wise but for all National Highways in the State. The allocation for the current year for the National Highways in the State of Orissa is as under:—

	(Rs. in crores)
(i) Developmental Works	43.50
(ii) Maintenance & Repairs	35.77
(iii) Special Repairs	23.96

Performance of Public Sector Banks

*140. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total turnover of all the public sector banks;

(b) the number of banks which are in red;

(c) what steps are being taken to improve their performance;

(d) whether it is a fact that some banks are being amalgamated with each other to improve the performance; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Total deposits & advances of Public Sector Banks as on 31.3.1999 are Rs. 636860.03 crores & Rs. 297350.19 crores respectively.

(b) Only two Public Sector Banks reported net loss for the year ending 31.3.1999.

(c) Government/Reserve Bank of India has been advising the banks to improve their performance. In this direction, banks have been advised to reduce their cost of deposit, increase their earning by taking up non-fund business, improve recovery and arrest creation of